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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

A weak stance regarding the crimes committed by Microsoft will not help America's standing internationally. With this proposed settlement America appears to be saying to the international community "crime is OK if it is done by rich white Americans". At the same time by its actions elsewhere America appears to be clearly saying "crime is not OK if it is done by the poor, by non-whites, by non-Americans". Think carefully before ratifying this extremely weak settlement. America needs all the credibility it can get and this is not the way to achieve it.

The consequences of this settlement will be felt worldwide. The Microsoft monopoly is dangerously close to being totalitarian, and it appears to edge closer all the time for example its strategies to control the internet. It is difficult to understand how a nation which champions democracy and capitalism will escape the consequences of turning a blind eye to the predatory activities of this corporation. America will lose its technological edge, lose its lead in the international software market, lose the confidence of other governments (this is happening now), and lose much of the freedom its people enjoy. I am basing these comments on statements by experts in technology and economics, not people who are politically biased.

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